



# Brownfields Supplemental Assistance

## *Downriver Community Conference, MI*

### BACKGROUND

EPA awarded the Downriver Community Conference supplemental assistance for its Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot. This is the second time the Downriver Community Conference has been awarded supplemental assistance. The Downriver Community Conference represents nine communities in southeastern Michigan that have formed a local municipal collaborative called the Downriver Area Brownfield Consortium (DABC). The communities that make up the DABC are varied, ranging from older urban to suburban communities with industrial uses ranging from light to heavy industrial facilities. Populations in these communities range 20,000 to 90,000.

The purpose of the original Pilot was to develop, test, and implement a program for Downriver communities to redevelop brownfield properties. Through its Brownfields Redevelopment Initiative, the DABC has played a role in the redevelopment of facilities for commercial, industrial, residential, and recreational use in the participating municipalities. These facilities have provided employment opportunities, facilitated addressing the problem of contaminated properties, and added to the participating cities' tax bases. The success of the Pilot has caused other municipalities to request guidance from the DABC.

### OBJECTIVES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The Downriver Community Conference has created a redevelopment model that identifies, investigates, and evaluates the potential future land use of selected brownfields sites within the participating communities, as well as providing for effective community outreach and involvement in the redevelopment process. By performing these assessments, brownfield properties become eligible for additional Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) funding for cleanup. Supplemental assistance will be used for assessments at up to six priority sites and at a 225-acre wetland for which cleanup and

#### PILOT SNAPSHOT



*Downriver Community  
Conference, Michigan*

**Date of Announcement:**  
May 2002

**Amount:** \$ 150,000

**Profile:** The Pilot plans to build on the successful implementation of the DABC model for brownfields assessment at up to six priority sites in participating municipalities and a 225-acre wetland property for reuse as greenspace.

#### Contacts:

Downriver Community  
Conference  
(734) 281-0700

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA Region 5  
(312) 886-1960

Visit the EPA Region 5 Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
[www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields)

redevelopment can improve environmental quality, enhance the tax base, and meet the overall needs of the community.

*Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:*

- Completing up to six site profiles that identify brownfield properties;

- Completing up to six Phase I environmental site assessments;
- Completing up to six Phase II environmental site assessments;
- Completing up to six baseline environmental assessments with due care plans; and
- Involving the community and sharing information on Pilot activities through public meetings and other activities.

*The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.*